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21
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Need for mental health support growing

JENN WATT
Editor

Demand for mental health services is on the rise as Ontarians head into the eighth week since the state of emergency was called due to the coronavirus pandemic on March 17.

Canadians are feeling more isolated and more anxious than they were a month ago, according to survey findings released by the Canadian Mental Health Association to coincide with Mental Health Week, May 4 to 10. Feelings of isolation are up from 39 per cent to 47 per cent among Canadians, according to CMHA, and 49 per cent of Ontarians surveyed report feeling anxious.

With added pressure, several provincial service providers have asked the government to release emergency money as well as commit to long-term funding.

"It is critical for government to think of mental health care and addiction services as a priority in its response to COVID-19. Investments and action to support helplines and crisis services are a welcome and important short-term solution to address growing demands. However, it's not enough," a letter co-signed by the CEOs of Addictions and Mental Health Ontario, Children's Mental Health Ontario, and CMHA, reads.

see PANDEMIC page 4



Getting Haliburton rolling

Middle school teacher and avid cyclist Blake Paton thanks the community for helping him get people riding during the pandemic. He's not sure how many bikes he's received, fixed and then given away, but knows he's been busy every day for the past few weeks since he started his initiative. Paton believes there was also close to \$2,000 raised for food banks as payment for his repairs. See story on page 14.
/DARREN LUM Staff

Procession gives final send-off to dear friend

SUE TIFFIN

Staff Reporter

Last week, on Tuesday afternoon, a procession of cars gathered at the Eagle Lake Country Market, the drivers and passengers greeting each other with a

smile or wave or kind word at a distance in keeping with current public health recommendations during the COVID-19 pandemic. The windows of many of the cars were decorated with handmade posters and tokens showing symbols of a life well-lived and well-loved: one with a construction paper rainbow leading to

a heart, one with music notes dancing together on a page, one with a quilt featuring angels, one with a photo of a rainbow flag, and one cut into the shape of a heart that simply said "Lee."

At about 3 p.m. on April 28, the

see FRIENDS page 3

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Home builders pleased as some activities set to resume

JENN WATT

Editor

The provincial government's decision to allow some construction activities to resume was good news for the Haliburton County Home Builders' Association, which issued a press release on Friday, May 1 praising the decision.

"Building new homes and communities is a long, complicated process and requires different construction activities over a number of seasons," Keith Thomas, president of the local home builders' association said. "Losing the entire construction season for site servicing would be setting our local housing supply back, and risk the homes that our clients are looking to move into next year. Under the new provincial guidelines, we will continue to deliver homes safely today and in the future."

As of May 4, the province is permitting work to resume in several areas, including site preparation,

excavation, and servicing for institutional, commercial, industrial and residential development.

Those activities had previously ceased as a precaution to limit the potential spread of COVID-19.

The home builders' association said earthworks and site grading allow for physical distancing as each operator is in their own machine and noted that site grading is essential to every construction site.

"In addition, the decision allows for site and land-servicing projects to commence or continue new residential, industrial, commercial and institutional developments. Underground servicing, the installation of storm-water controls, water pipes, sanitary sewer pipes, road construction, including curbs and sidewalk, landscape works, trails, parks and utilities (telecommunications, water, gas, electricity, etc.) are necessary for the activation of new homes and eventual occupancy," the press release states.

"We are allowing certain businesses to reopen under strict guidelines because we are confident they can operate safely and adapt to the current environment," Premier Doug Ford said in an announcement Friday. "While further reductions in the spread are needed before we can begin reopening the province, we have the right framework and the right workplace guidelines in place to do so gradually and safely."

Sixty guidelines have been established to help employers reopen workplaces safely to protect workers, customers and the public, according to the government.

The home builders said the industry supports shuttering any site not respecting the Ministry of Labour's guidelines for construction site health and safety during the COVID-19 pandemic.

"We all want safe job sites," said Joe Vaccaro, Ontario

Home Builders Association CEO. "Adding these new construction activities along with new provincial COVID-19 health and safety guidelines means members will continue to focus on worker safety while delivering keys to the thousands of families waiting for their homes to be completed. We can keep each other safe while delivering housing supply across Ontario."

Other work permitted to resume as of May 4:

Garden centres and nurseries with curbside pick-up and delivery only;

Lawn care and landscaping;

Additional essential construction projects that include: shipping and logistics;

broadband, telecommunications, and digital infrastructure;

any other project that supports the improved delivery of goods and services;

municipal projects;

colleges and universities;

child care centres;

schools; and

site preparation, excavation, and servicing for institutional, commercial, industrial and residential development;

Automatic and self-serve car washes;

Auto dealerships, open by appointment only;

Golf courses may prepare their courses for the upcoming season, but not open to the public; and

Marinas may also begin preparations for the recreational boating season by servicing boats and other watercraft and placing boats in the water, but not open to the public. Boats and watercraft must be secured to a dock in the marina until public access is allowed.

Dogs involved in attack euthanized, OPP say

The two Saint Bernard dogs that attacked six-year-old Sadie Lester and her mother Lindsay Lester on April 12 have been euthanized.

Lindsay and Sadie were out for a walk on Gainforth Road on Easter Sunday when the dogs attacked. Lindsay threw herself on her daughter and was credited by her husband and Sadie's father, AJ Lester, for saving Sadie's life.

Sadie was taken to SickKids with critical injuries and is now recovering at home. Lindsay was listed as sustaining non-life-threatening injuries.

According to the Haliburton Highlands OPP, the dogs were euthanized at the request of their owners and the investigation has now concluded.

Staff

Long-term care residents undergo universal testing

JENN WATT

Editor

All long-term care residents and staff have been tested for COVID-19 at Haliburton Highlands Health Services facilities as part of a directive of the Ontario government.

In an update to the community dated May 1, CEO Carolyn Plummer said the move would identify any asymptomatic cases of the coronavirus, if there are any, and would contribute to the bigger picture for the province as it seeks to better understand the spread in long-term care homes.

"We are looking at this testing as strictly one 'snapshot in time' and even if all tests are negative, we will not relax our diligent work to protect all residents, including through physical distancing and handwashing, twice-daily screening of staff and residents, and the wearing of masks in our facilities," Plummer said in her letter.

HHHS has two long-term care facilities: Hyland Crest in Minden and Highland Wood in Haliburton.

Last week, Plummer announced the corporation had moved to seal its long-term care units from the adjoining hospital facilities in both towns, creating additional protection for the residents and staff.

Temporary walls, separate entrances, break rooms and change rooms were added and work flows changed so staff and essential visitors are not moving between the distinct sections of the building.

Plummer also urged those who need medical attention, whether COVID-19 related or not, to continue to come to HHHS. Those who suspect they may have COVID-19 are asked to call ahead to alert HHHS or other health service providers of their symptoms.

To access the online self-assessment, go to Ontario.ca/coronavirus or call 1-866-767-0000. If prompted to go to an assessment centre, you must first make an appointment at the Haliburton Family Medical Centre at 705-457-1212 and press 6.

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Haliburton County Home Builders Association

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Summer intern reporting from a distance

ZACHARY ROMAN

Staff Reporter

I had never been more excited for any job, ever. Moving out to the Highlands for the summer and pursuing my love of journalism with an internship at the *Haliburton Echo* was like a dream come true.

For my entire life I have loved Ontario's cottage country. While I go to school at Ryerson University in Toronto, I am decidedly not a city person. A summer isn't a summer in my eyes without a camping trip at Killbear Provincial Park in Parry Sound, or a visit to a friend's cottage on the lake. I love the outdoors passionately – and while I hadn't ever been to Haliburton, I got the idea from all of my research that I'd fit in perfectly.

Unfortunately, just like everyone else who had big plans this summer, the onset of COVID-19 threw a wrench in mine. The biggest wrench in the whole toolbox.

But not the biggest wrench in the tool shed, as luckily for me, my internship has turned to an internet-ship. I will still be reporting for the *Haliburton Echo* this summer (I suppose you wouldn't be reading this if I wasn't) from my family home in Caledon, just north of Brampton. I'll be setting a new all-time phone bill world record as I look forward to getting to know you and your commu-



Reporter Zach Roman will be working for the *Haliburton Echo* and *Minden Times* this summer. /MICHAELA BELL Special to the Echo

nity, through interviews that I wish could be in person.

One of my favourite parts of journalism is how many people I get to meet, learn from and laugh with. I'll always love and appreciate that I have the privilege to amplify voices that haven't been heard and tell the stories of people that haven't been told before.

When I'm not on the beat reporting, you can find me downhill longboarding or training my family's new rescue dog, Otis. Someday I hope to teach him how to skateboard – but for now we're just enjoying every minute of getting to know each other.

So if you know of an awesome hill I should ride, or perhaps more importantly have a story idea, feel free to reach out to me by email at zachary@haliburtonpress.com or on Twitter @roman_reports. Let's talk!

Friends 'full of gratitude' for last moments together

from page 1

procession of cars – of which there would be almost 100 in total that afternoon – set out toward Lee Gauthier's house so that those who gathered could say goodbye to their friend, who had a medically assisted death two days later.

"Like one of our members said that very day, after we had all kind of slowly went by Lee and she waved and we talked to her, one of the people in our group said, isn't it amazing, who actually gets to see their own funeral procession?" said Brenda Peddigrew, a longtime friend of Gauthier.

Gauthier, who was receiving many visitors after sharing her end-of-life decision with friends, suggested that everyone come on one day, so she could greet a group at one time rather than individually in the days she had left. Friends including those in the Algonquin Highlands Writers' Circle, Soul Sisters women's group, and Outloud Womyn's Voices group got the word out as quickly as possible to arrange for an end-of-life mobile procession to send Gauthier off, with cars stopping so final words could be exchanged.

"We didn't anticipate doing that," said Peddigrew. "We thought she would be up on her deck, standing by the railing, waving. But we were all surprised when she came out right to the edge of the road. She was so close that we could speak ... she was in tears, and of course she'd be in tears ... It was very moving."

Peddigrew said the experience of driving by her friend prior to her death, "was like an expanded consciousness or something. It felt like it wasn't exactly what we would ordinarily feel going to a gathering or a funeral or anything. I felt like I was in two worlds. I was in the real world that this was actually happening, and then there was another part of me that was, no, this can't be happening."

Gauthier was prepared for the end of her life – donating her numerous DVDs to the library, ensuring her beloved cats had a home, filing decades of real estate papers from her long career as a realtor – with Peddigrew saying she was without a lot of suffering or angst, instead welcoming of everybody, of the community.

"One thing you have to remember also, the cars all had signs in their windows, so we were communicating our love and support that way," said Peddigrew. "But we all just, as far as I can hear, put down the window and really told her how much we loved her, how much we appreciated her, and go with God, go in peace."

Linda Baumgartner remembers meeting Gauthier just more than 30 years ago, when Baumgartner was starting her career as a realtor in the area. Gauthier was one realtor who Baumgartner said embraced her, kept in touch with her, and offered help in answering questions as she was working her way into the industry, showing the strong connection between realtors in what can be a competitive business. When Baumgartner heard Gauthier's news the week before, she knew local realtors would want to gather for her, and organized a group of about 50 cars of people.

"It was so emotional," said Baumgartner. "I had tears in my eyes when I saw all the cars at Eagle Lake [Country] Market, but then when I saw Lee come out, I stopped in front of her driveway, and I was just bawling like a baby. I told her how she touched my heart, 32 years ago, and I've always respected her, we've always had great relations on our real estate dealings together. She just kept holding her hand to her heart, kept saying, thank you, thank you."

Though the procession happened on Tuesday and Lee had arranged her



As longtime local Lee Gauthier waved and called out in greeting from the end of her driveway in Eagle Lake, friends participated in a mobile celebration of her life and final farewell on April 28 prior to Gauthier's medically assisted death on April 30. /Submitted by Brenda Peddigrew

MAID, or medical assistance in dying, appointment for Thursday morning at 11 a.m., she took the time on Tuesday evening and on Wednesday to reach out.

"The next day, Lee phoned me, and thanked me, and just said, yesterday was absolutely incredible," said Baumgartner. "She really was at peace with all of this. She said, all I have to say to you, Linda, is that my heart is filled with love and gratitude. It wasn't only me, it was our whole realtor community. She said, I just kept looking down the road and all I saw were cars and cars and more cars. She said I saw people I haven't seen in years. And she said it was just overwhelming and very touching."

"I said, oh my gosh, how long can Lee stand there, but she did, and she emailed all of us that night and told us how grateful she was," said Peddigrew. "That night! Some of us had emails from her the next day, which was the day before her dying. She was very conscious and focused. The rest of us were kind of operating on shock, more than Lee was, so she was consoling us that next day, and thanking us for this tribute. It was just very jarring for a lot of us for a few days. She had the peace, and she was very sure."

"It's almost like, we held the funeral for her before she left," said Baumgartner, noting a feeling of many who were in attendance. "You know, they say, if you could ever attend your own funeral, you'd love to hear what people had to say, to you or about you. She got to experience that ... Yesterday, I kept thinking about her. I'd get a little sad, but then I had a little smile on my face because she's at peace now, and she's where she wants to be."

Peddigrew said Gauthier's friends are now exchanging stories of the owls they've seen – a sign Gauthier said to look for in her memory – and ensuring her legacy of supporting charities including the Minden Cat Angels and Woodlands Wildlife Sanctuary continues. As she drove away from her friend for the last time, she reflected alongside her partner, Joan Weir.

"It felt as if there was an ending and not an ending, that's what it felt like as we drove away," said Peddigrew. "We were

very silent. We couldn't find words until we got to the end, out back onto 118. We were both just trying to take in what was happening, and that we had just seen Lee for the last time. But we were just full of



Signs decorated cars in a procession of friends wishing Lee Gauthier a farewell prior to her death on April 30./Submitted by Brenda Peddigrew

gratitude that it could be done this way. That we didn't have to watch her suffer and suffer and suffer and die in that agony. That's what we came to articulate. We were silent though for at least 10 minutes after we passed her, each in our own thoughts about her. It was very tender. That's what it felt like."

In an email to Peddigrew and Weir the day before she died, Gauthier wrote: "What a fullness of heart I have from the vision of never-ending cars with lights on and pictures in windows and drawings and words of love. My gratitude today is profound!"

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Pandemic may help reduce mental health stigma

from page 1

"Canadians will also need longer-term and more intensive clinical services and supports. Our members need funding urgently for staffing, infection control measures, long-term therapy and counselling to help prevent suicide and ensure Ontarians achieve their recovery goals."

When the first days of self-isolation and emergency measures came into place, people weren't necessarily seeking out mental health support, said Beverlee

Groves-Foley, clinical manager of mental health services for Haliburton Highlands Health Services.

But in the weeks that followed, she said people have increasingly been relying on the services her department provides, which has modified service delivery to accommodate physical distancing protocols.

"I think when we started in COVID [precautions] people really didn't have any idea of how long it was going to be, so our clients on our caseload at that time

[said] 'I can wait a week or two,'" Groves-Foley said. Group sessions were initially cancelled and counselling done by phone. Since that time, Zoom video conferencing has been introduced, which has provided needed relief for some clients.

"[I] ran into someone at the grocery store the other week who [said] 'you don't know that lifeline of being able to talk in our group has just changed my day completely,'" she said.

Groups are made up of between eight and 12 people, and there is room for more.

"Our first two weeks [after pandemic protocols came into place] we didn't see an increase, but after the two weeks, our intake has increased," she said, noting financial and relationship issues are the biggest concerns for clients.

If additional provincial funding were provided for mental health services, Groves-Foley said she knew exactly where it could be used.

"The plans would be, we have several people who are quite isolated, and don't have phones, they can only text. The goal would be to be able to give them the technology, either by an iPad, laptop, even a phone, to be able to connect regularly and follow up with appointments. Right now, they don't have any access," she said. "They might be able to text clinicians, but you can't talk on the phone because you don't have the ability to do that, they only pay for a texting plan. And they could attend Zoom groups if they have the technology and speak to the food bank, those types of things."

Clients of Point in Time Centre for Children, Youth and Parents had similar reactions to the pandemic, at first using mental health services less, perhaps as they focused their energies on adapting to the new way of life, and now re-engaging.

Times of anxiety can unearth past feelings of helplessness and trauma for some, said executive director Marg Cox, which can take weeks to balance out enough to be comfortable seeking help.

At-home learning for children can bring additional stress, even though teachers and the school board have been doing their best to make the transition easier.

"If you haven't had success as a parent yourself at school and then you may have heightened anxiety around school, your own academic stuff, and then you've got all of a sudden on top of trying to deal with financial pressures, your own life stress is maybe trying to work from home,

you're also now needing to help your children with homework," Cox said. "... Even if it isn't something that is expected, people set expectations for themselves and want to meet them and feel badly when they're not."

Cox said that more funding for mental health was needed as a response to COVID-19 and looking into the future.

If additional funding were to flow to Point in Time, she said it would be best spent on technology to improve access regardless of financial status, as well as to hire more staff.

"We've got a waiting list and the way that we can get through the waiting list is to have additional people to be able to provide clinical mental health supports," she said.

She noted that one positive of the pandemic is more open, honest conversations about mental health.

"All of a sudden a lot more people are talking about mental health and as we enter into Mental Health Week this week, that's always one of our goals is to try to reduce the stigma and increase the access," she said. "And now that the stigma is being cracked wide open with so many Ontarians experiencing it and talking about it, there's even more need than ever to be putting some additional resources towards supporting both children and youth and adult mental health."

Mental Health Tips

Marg Cox of Point in Time and Beverlee Groves-Foley of Haliburton Highlands Mental Health Services shared some pointers on how to reduce stress during this time of increased physical isolation.

- Find ways to connect with people – through video chat programs such as FaceTime, Zoom or Skype; over the phone; online; or at a (very) safe distance.
- Structure – keep up routines in your day.
- Practice self-compassion – remind yourself that it's OK not to meet all the achievement standards you normally would. It's normal not to feel fine.
- Try meditation
- Reach out for help – the earlier you seek assistance, the better your outcome will be
- Support your friends – acknowledge that we don't all "feel fine" all the time. Listen to how they're feeling, share your worries with them.



Blue sky office

Dysart et al parks and recreation worker Shane Thompson adds new planks to repair the fence at the Eagle Lake beach on Friday, May 1. Thompson said more work will be performed on the fence in the future. /DARREN LUM Staff



ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP NOTICE

Due to restrictions mandated as a result of the COVID-19 global pandemic, the 24th Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Corporation (HHHS) originally scheduled to be held in June, 2020 will be delayed. As of this time, a date for the AGM is still to be confirmed. A further notice will be published once the date has been set.

2020-21 Membership in the HHHS Corporation is available to any individual who is a resident* of, or who is employed or operates a business in, the County of Haliburton or in the Townships formerly known as Laxton, Digby and Longford, or Bexley or Somerville of Victoria county, or Cavendish and Galway of Peterborough County for a period of at least 12 months immediately prior to the payment of an annual membership fee of ten dollars (\$10).

Membership in the Corporation entitles an individual to vote at any general meeting of the Corporation. **To be eligible to vote at the 2020 AGM, new memberships must be obtained by May 25, 2020.** Members of the Corporation are also entitled to nominate Directors for election to the Board.

Forms for corporate membership can be found on the website listed below (under *Admin&Board/Board&Oversight*) and payment of the membership fee can be arranged by contacting:

Marlene Vieira
HHHS Administration Office
7199 Gelert Road, Haliburton, ON K0M 1S0
Phone: 705-457-2527
Email: mvieira@hhhs.ca
Website: www.hhhs.ca

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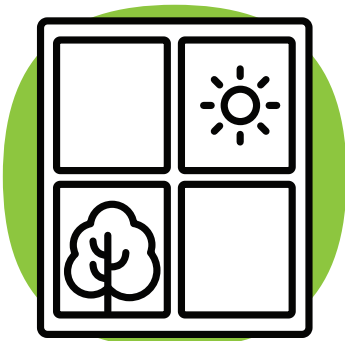
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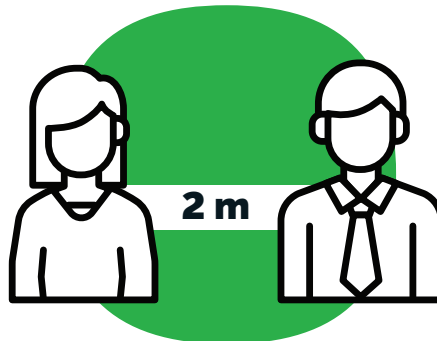
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Forever in our memories: Creighton Feir

Defending news

MAYBE IT'S the pressure we're all feeling in self-isolation, the worry over finances, or the pervasive anxiety that we or our loved ones may get sick. Whatever it is, it seems bad information is making the rounds more rapidly and with greater intensity than ever before.

From bogus cures for COVID-19 to racist fear-mongering to conspiracy theories, we're being inundated with misinformation and disinformation every day through social media, phony websites and sometimes through group emails from friends and family.

And that's not counting the wild and dangerous remarks coming from the U.S. president.

Last week people in Minden were greeted by COVID-19 hoax posters plastered with a mysterious brown substance on store windows in the downtown. Bizarre claims about 5G, mask wearing, and the reality of the virus itself were featured on the materials.

It's unlikely that many people would see those posters and change their behaviours, eschewing public health recommendations, however, COVID-19 hoax messaging isn't just being shared through late-night downtown forays. Those messages are spreading on Facebook newsfeeds, on message boards and on websites built to look like reputable news organizations.

The best defence against bad information is accurate information, however, with the economic downturn triggered by the necessary business closures across the country, this, too, has taken a hit.

We learned last week that Post-

media had laid off 80 staff and had permanently shuttered 15 community newspapers in Ontario and Manitoba. According to work done by Ryerson University, 50 news outlets (48 of them community papers) have temporarily or permanently closed over a six-week period across Canada.

At a time when it's more important than ever to have access to reliable information, events are conspiring to make it harder to find.

Solutions lie both in the personal and political realms. On Saturday, leadership of the country's major daily papers asked the Government of Canada to follow the lead of France and Australia to legislate that Google and Facebook pay for copyrighted content created by the media, from which they profit, and share the ad dollars that come from it. This is an obvious and fair way of bolstering news organizations, giving them a much needed income stream.

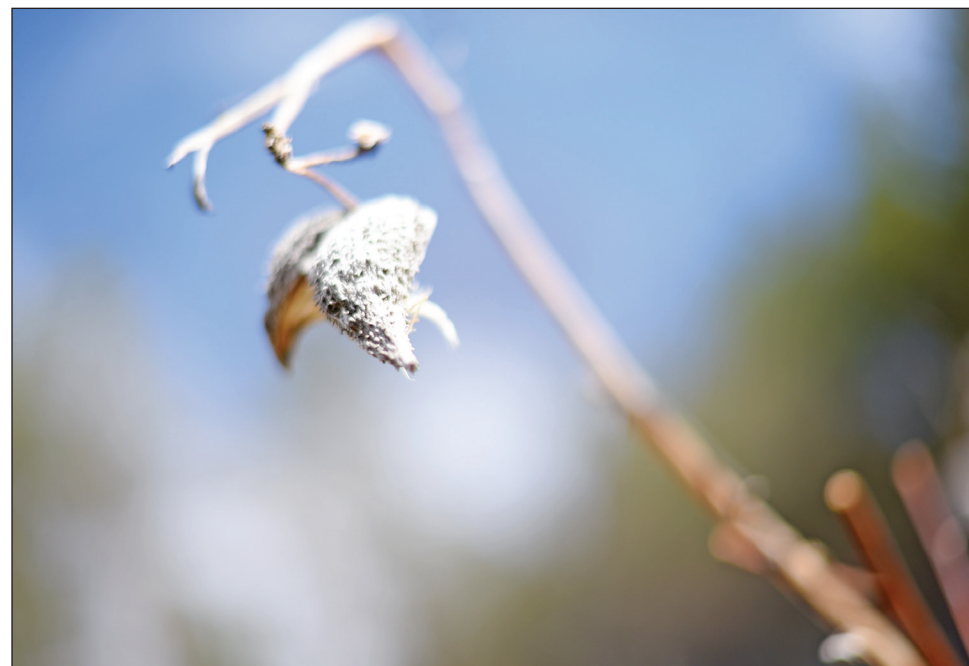
On a personal level, we must continue to support news organizations (if they offer subscriptions, consider paying for one) and call out fake stories when we see them. Check the source before you share a story on Facebook – is it coming from a reputable organization? Check the date it was published – is this story still relevant? Consider whether you're reading a satirical website meant to look like the news, or one that's coming from a biased source. And if you see something suspicious, say something.

Good information is in increasingly short supply; now more than ever we need to defend our access to real news.



jenn watt

Editorial



Spring time sights

by Darren Lum

Tiny lights

“WE ARE TINY lights that sparkle and glow, In a world much bigger than we'll ever know.” We are all tiny lights that need to shine brightly right now. The world is depending on it. These are a couple of lines from my current favourite song, *Tiny Lights*, by Coco Love Alcorn. I listen to it when I am in need of hope, inspiration or a positive focus.

My in-laws, Betty, who just turned 92 and Bob, who is 91 this year, live in Orillia at a multi-level care retirement facility called Birchmere. Jim talks to them every day, and we are so grateful that they are healthy, safe and being well cared for. Jim and I have visited them many times in their almost three years of living at Birchmere and we are thankful for the excellent care they receive. The staff at Birchmere are professional, caring and very friendly. The residence always feels welcoming and warm and Bob and Betty are very happy living there.

In this time of COVID-19 we obviously can't visit them, but I have this image of them surrounded by all of the staff who I visualize as bright lights taking care of them. “We are tiny lights, shining so bright, In a world we know is gonna be alright.” We trust the staff to keep them safe, healthy and happy.

People who work in these facilities are doing such important work.

Kayla Bird is an example of a shining light at our Extencicare in Haliburton. I recently saw some pictures of her at work, on Facebook. She is an activity aide and absolutely loves her job. I babysat Kayla when she was very young. Her mother and I shared childcare so that we could both work part time and be at home part time. Kayla has always had a big heart, and knew from a young age that she loved working with older folks. I know many people in our community rest a

little easier knowing that their loved ones are getting such good care, from Kayla and all the staff.

We are learning so much as we all navigate our way through this pandemic, and one of the lessons is how important these people are who are working and looking after our elderly parents. They deserve excellent working conditions and remuneration for their work. Kayla is

19 years old and has a whole career ahead of her. I hope our society will value her and all these workers and make the right decisions to ensure they can do their jobs well. To all staff, thank you for looking after our parents every day. We look forward to the day we can visit again.

“We celebrate through love and play, we take a minute every day, We chase the shadows far away, finding colours in the grey.”

*Tales from
the great*



lynda shadbolt

Green meadow

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points of view

She's with the band

THE OTHER day, I walked into the kitchen just in time to see our old lab Millie ingest an elastic band that must have accidentally fallen on the floor. As soon as our eyes met, the race was on. I sprinted over to see if I could fish it out of her gullet. She did her best to gulp it down.

Needless to say, I'm not as fast as I used to be.

A first-time dog owner might have been horrified by this scenario. Millie, however, has been on this earth for nearly 12 years, so while I was concerned, I was not in full-fledged panic. That's because, over the course of a decade or so, your typical Labrador retriever consumes hundreds of things that have never, and will never, be designated as dog food – or any food actually. My socks, half a book, the leg of a couch and a couple of shoes immediately come to mind.

Please don't misunderstand me. I'm not saying this behaviour is something you want to encourage or consider insignificant. Rather, I am suggesting that it is another reason why Labrador retriever owners should always buy multiple pairs of the same socks. Basically, these things happen.

My immediate response after I knew the elastic was long gone was to do an online search to find out if I should be more worried than I was. This was probably a mistake, as getting your medical wisdom from online sources usually just reminds you that expertise is a subjective thing. Also, if you did not put it into perspective, you would have immediately thought that elastics are



steve
galea

Loon Tales

some sort of nutritional supplement for dogs. There were so many instances, in fact, that it made you wonder how dogs have got this far without a steady diet of rubber bands.

As for advice, there were plenty of suggestions but the most reasonable to me was that I should watch Millie for symptoms of an obstruction, which includes vomiting, loss of appetite and diarrhea. (Parents, feel free to show this to any child who is begging for a puppy.)

I did so and noticed that, if anything, Millie has more of a bounce in her step lately, though I'm not sure that's related. Either way, I will continue to monitor.

The truth of the matter is dogs are "adventurous" in their food choices. That means, like most of us, they do not always make the best decisions when it comes to the food they consume. My old springer spaniel Callie, for instance, was not above eating the odd pebble, which is why, if you look closely, you can still find little cairns in the yard.

This morning, I was talking to a friend of mine who knows a person whose dog recently ate a whole plate of potato salad, which would not have been so terrible if it had not consumed the accompanying fork as well. Naturally, in this case an emergency medical procedure was in order, and it was probably done just in the nick of time too. (Sorry.)

There are plenty of examples of this sort of thing and I don't know a dog owner, if they are being honest, who has not watched in horror as their dog has swallowed something less than healthy, nutritious or worthy of causing dry heaves.

Even so, I could not help but be a little concerned for Millie and I continue to watch her closely ever since the incident. Thankfully, she seems to have been completely unaffected by the junk food. Thus far, I haven't noticed any ill effects at all. If there were, she seems to have snapped out of it.

And that, for me, is still very hard to digest.



pic of the past

Noreen and Bob Bishop originally submitted this photo in 1986 of Miss Williams's Grade 4 class of 1942. Front row from the left, Noel Austin, Tom Kirkpatrick, Grenville Sholer, Bill Austin, Ron Davies, Dale Lee, Bernard Hutchings. Second row, from left, kneeling, Don Walling, Bob Bishop, Claude Bolender, Billy Speck, Louie Scalla, Victor Bird. Back row, from left, on bike, Grant Scheffee, standing, Tom Hodgson, Everett Pearson, Murray Austin, Clifford Vickery on bike.

letters to the editor

Don't restrict cottage access

To the Editor,

This letter was initially addressed to both the premier and minister of health for Ontario sent in response to the May 2 National Post article entitled "Communities Along Lake Erie 'torn' over ban on Cottagers" by Adrian Humphreys.

Dear Mr. Ford, I am sending you this communication with respect to possible curtailment of cottage owners from going to their cottages in light of COVID-19 concerns. As a physician and responsible cottage owner, I do believe I have some insight. I don't have to remind you that as cottage owners we pay taxes for services for the entire year that surely benefits our northern communities. However I do say that we do use our cottage in a responsible fashion 12 months of the year.

With respect to COVID-19, it is much easier to isolate in the cottage setting than it is in a high-rise in Toronto having to use the elevator multiple times a day with a pet that needs to use the outdoors for obvious reasons. Isolation is much easier in the cottage environment where there is little person to person contact making the risks of contraction or spread of COVID-19 slim and remote. As responsible cottage owners we bring most of our provisions from the city of Toronto and use local facilities sparingly. My wife who has been residing there for the past two months finds that stores are well-stocked and there is no problem with social distancing and business seems to be happy with our purchases.

Concerning the possibility of becoming symptomatic with a respiratory tract infection or other illnesses that could overwhelm local community health care I daresay it would prompt a quick return to the city where as you know our hospitals have been underwhelmed with emergency visits and COVID-19 infection. I certainly can attribute this to your wise guidance and the institution of nonessential business closure, social distancing, encouraging appropriate handwashing etc, so kudos to your government. However it is quite clear that the plateau has been reached and certainly there has been a significant decline of COVID-19 infection within the city of Toronto itself as you well know.

There is no reason why we as responsible citizens should be prevented from going to our cottages. We would continue to social distance. We would continue to avoid unnecessary gathering of people. Moreover it makes no sense to institute such a policy other than to create animosity between cottage owners and those who make cottage country their permanent residence. These communities need our existence in order to carry out their businesses which indeed is necessary for their economic survival. Also, it should be stated that if your government decides to implement such a policy then you must also do it for those citizens of northern communities who must travel to the city to do business or even attend for

see EVIDENCE page 8

Brewers Fest cancelled for 2020

To the Editor,

It comes as no surprise that the Haliburton and District Lions Club is officially announcing that the Haliburton Craft Brewers Fest scheduled for Saturday, July 18, 2020 is cancelled. We send our thanks to our sponsors and to all who have supported this event. As you know, the Haliburton Lions raise funds to give away to those in need. While the cancellation of this and other upcoming fundraisers will result in the reassessment of our

available funds, we are confident that we will continue to be here to serve and to help. COVID-19 brings sadness, worry and personal struggle to the world and to our local community. To be able to serve at this time is a gift we will not pass up.

Please feel most welcome to contact us at haliburtonlions@gmail.com or visit our website at haliburtoncraftbrewersfest.com as we are in this together. Keep well and stay safe.

Lion Gail Stelter
Haliburton

More letters to the Editor on page 9

Mother's Day delayed

JANET TRULL

Special to the Echo

IDON'T LOOK at the calendar anymore, so Mother's Day sneaked up on me. Even though the robins are building and re-building nests under my deck, even though my neighbour's rhubarb is already huge, even though the days are getting longer, May has taken me by surprise.

What to do about Mother's Day this year? My 90-year-old mother, who lives in a small town four hours away, is not totally compliant with physical distancing rules. She sometimes remembers and sometimes "forgets." She walks uptown every day. There is something "essential" she needs at the pharmacy, the grocery store, or the dollar store. On the way, she checks on my brother who lives in a group home. He comes out and waves hello. Occasionally she edges her way up onto the front porch or sneaks into the backyard for a visit.

Sometimes my mother knocks on doors of friends she is worried about. "Just checking to see if they're OK," she says. Oh, and three neighbours are sharing one daily newspaper. Last week, she was sitting on her porch and her smoke detector went off. A random stranger walking by offered to check it out for her. He went inside and to assess the situation, and stayed to replace the battery. Which was a nice gesture, but not allowed!

My concerns are dismissed.

"Don't worry! I am immune to everything," she tells me. My mother believes she acquired her immunity when she was a nurse. "We didn't have disposable gowns and masks," she says, "They were cotton, laundered at high temperatures. We never ran out. Not even during that terrible polio epidemic."

She nursed me through measles and mumps and tonsillitis and bronchitis. She put a bell on my night table so I could ring for service. The menu was flat ginger ale, scotch broth, tea and toast. She freshened the sheets daily (with hospital corners), gave me sponge baths and kept the room dark. There was no TV in the sick room, and no chance of sneaking downstairs until the fever broke. Her generation was proficient with quarantine procedures.

I was not so vigilant with my own sick children. I double dosed them with Children's Tylenol and sent them off to school, hoping for the best. Hoping I wouldn't get a call at work telling me they were vom-



Lessons on etiquette are passed down through the generations. Repair your divots. Never show your temper when you knock one into the pond. Let faster golfers play through.

iting into the trash can.

Mother's church is closed. Euchre and bingo cancelled. Her friends at the long-term care facility are off limits. But I am proud of her for remaining positive. She is cheered by the news that golf courses can start preparing to open. Not only is she the longest standing member at her club, but her name is engraved 21 times on the championship plaques that hang in the ladies' locker room. She is an expert at the game, especially the etiquette.

Repair your divots. Never show your temper when you knock one into the pond. Let faster golfers play through.

These are lessons her own parents taught her in the 1940s. She taught them to me in the 1960s. I taught them to my children in the 1990s. Now, Mother is passing on the disciplined comportment of the game to her great grandchildren.

"Good manners on the course are more important



Good manners during the pandemic may limit Mother's Day celebrations, but they're what's best for everyone - at every age.

than scoring well," she tells them.

"Good manners during a pandemic are more important than getting together on Mother's Day," I tell her, as we plan a distancing celebration. "Etiquette isn't always easy, but it does improve the game for everyone. Rules are made to be followed, Mom. Even when you're 90."

Evidence-based medicine must inform decisions

from page 7

medical reasons – it works both ways. I would also state that such a draconian policy of barring movement to our cottages would in my opinion represent overstepping of government into private lives which would have a negative impact in supporting your government financially or otherwise in future endeavours or elections. I can see no evidence that implementing such a policy would serve any useful purpose. Our own prime minister continues to use his "cottage" to address the nation on a regular basis. I don't believe we are in store for a second major surge as long as we continue to be responsible citizens. I feel your government must continue the fight to encourage proper behaviour in this era of COVID-19 but refrain from making decisions not based on sound evidence-based medicine that would interfere with freedom of the person and as I see it a constitutional issue.

David Kreaden, MD FRCP
Dysart et al

COVID-19 and your septic system



Septic owners should be mindful that every septic system has a finite capacity.

If your system is stressed or overloaded beyond its capacity, you could end up with a messy, costly failure.

Self-isolation and shelter-in-place policies can stress septic systems

– Are you spending more time at

home and trying to keep the coronavirus at bay? This can increase the load on your septic system. More food is being prepared at home. Many people are washing more dishes.

More laundry than usual – Many families are washing clothes, linens, towels, etc. more often, especially if someone in the home is self-isolating or quarantined. Some people are stripping down and washing their clothes after having been outside.

All this extra water usage and food waste going down drains increases the stress on septic systems.

Disinfecting wipes and other toxins – In an effort to prevent the virus from spreading, many families are using higher than normal amounts of wipes and cleaning products

We all have enough to worry about with the health and economic impacts of the coronavirus. A septic system backup or leach field failure right now on top of everything else would be disastrous.

Septic Care Checklist

So what can you do to reduce the stress on your septic system and prevent overloading it?

- Never use bleach and minimize antibacterial products in

a home with a septic system

- Never flush wipes of any kind – there is no such thing as a flushable wipe in a septic system.

• Use regular, good old fashioned soap for hand washing. There is no need to use soap containing harsh anti-bacterial agents which are toxic to the microbes in your septic system.

- Never do more than one water consuming activity at a time – e.g. do not do dishes and laundry at the same time as this can overload your system.

- Only do laundry when you have a full load and only do one load per day.

- Take showers of five minutes or less instead of having a bath, which uses more water.

- Never use chemical products in your toilet tank, like cleaning pucks that turn the water blue. Stop using them.

- Add more needed bacteria and enzymes to your system by adding seven scoops of Ecoethic Septic Treatment once a month (available at Organic Times in Minden <http://www.organictimesminden.com/>).

- Fix leaky plumbing fixtures especially toilet flappers that can allow hundreds of gallons of extra water to leak into your septic system.

- If you have not had your septic tank pumped in five years, contact a septic service company (they are considered an essential service) and arrange to get it done as soon as possible.

The Basics – reduce water use and spread it out over the day and week, do not let any antibacterial product down your drains and supplement the good bacteria and enzymes once a month.

We Were There Then... We Are Here Now

We have utilized two of our North American manufacturing plants to build ventilators and masks. We sourced material from our extensive supply chains and have been able to start production of both much more quickly than other manufacturers.

The dealer groups, along with the plants, rallied together to send their existing stock of PPE to those who need it.

Staying in business as long as GM has means taking the good with the bad. Whether it's economic prosperity or economic hardships, we always need to take care of people. Without them, the company has nothing. When a country is in need, we need to be ready to help however we can. GM recognizes this, as does everyone here at Curry Chevrolet. We hope everyone stays safe and we will beat this.

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Incoming student rep ready with new ideas

SUE TIFFIN

Staff Reporter

Alongside working on her regular Grade 10 school assignments due now, Olivia Melle has been thinking to the future.

Improving mental wellness at Haliburton Highlands Secondary School, organizing more school dances and events, organizing new school spirit wear and creating a more welcoming school environment were all on her to-do list, projects she wanted to take on as the HHSS G7 senate student representative during the 2020-2021 school year. But first, the Carnarvon resident had to get elected to the position she had hoped for since seeing a presentation about the role in Grade 9.

"I just want to do everything I can to better our school, to help our students succeed in the best way possible," said Olivia. "I really wanted everyone's voice to be heard, and I knew I could do a really good job of expressing everyone's voice and opinions. I know a lot about what other people want to see happen at our school and I know the current concerns or problems at our school."

In her speech to the student body, presented online due to students currently being at home after school facilities closed in March because of the novel coronavirus spread, Olivia said she is focused on the quality and pricing of cafeteria food, the introduction of open air learning so students can spend part of the day at least once a week in outdoor classrooms, and updated school merchandise to help include those who don't play sports but want to represent their school.

"I have so many other ideas I'd like to bring to this school," Olivia said in her speech. "Vote for me and I will fight for the things that are important to students, no matter how big or small they may be. Let's work together to make HHSS even better."

The students did vote for Olivia, electing her after a week-long campaign during an online election that allowed them to vote into the evening of April 27.



Olivia Melle has been elected as G7 student representative for Haliburton Highlands Secondary School for the upcoming school year. Olivia was elected by Grade 9 and 10 students in an online vote held last week. /Submitted

"I didn't really sleep Monday night going into Tuesday when we were going to find out," said Melle. "My heart was in my stomach."

The announcement was made by HHSS principal Chris Boulay and vice-principal David Waito via an online call to Olivia, and fellow candidates Emma Boutin, Olivia Johnson and incumbent Jordy Schell.

"My mom and I were crying," said Olivia. "I was shaking and so scared for it to be announced, then I heard my name and I was just crying – I didn't hear much after that. I had to email Mr. Boulay – what did you say after that?"

Olivia celebrated with a blizzard from Dairy Queen.

The Grade 10 student first became involved in leadership as a Grade 6 stu-

dent at J.D. Hodgson Elementary School, where she was on student council until Grade 8, and when she began participating in We Day, a youth empowerment event. She has excelled in her short time in high school, both as an athlete – she plays rugby and soccer – and as a student – last year she won a geography award for top marks.

She said she worked hard to campaign for the G7 student representative position, going to bed late and waking up early to run an online campaign that replaced posters in the school and announcements over the school's PA system, in an attempt to get her messages out to as many people as possible. And for the student who says she often faces challenges with self-confidence despite her successes, the win is still something she is

“

I'm just excited to be there for everyone and make a change.

— Olivia Melle,
G7 student rep
for 2020–2021

taking in but the work has already begun, with a meeting last week between Olivia and other elected students from throughout the Trillium Lakelands District School Board region meeting for an online call to discuss the year ahead.

"They're all so nice and they all have so many good ideas," said Olivia. "You hear all the ideas from different schools, so we might get more events or ideas from other schools."

David Waito, HHSS vice-principal, said the G7 senate student representative spot is a "coveted student leadership position in TLDSB secondary schools."

"We wish to congratulate Olivia for her successful campaign and election and are very much looking forward to working with her to continue to make Hal High and TLDSB the great places they are," he said.

Waito said the HHSS staff is proud as well of the other candidates for their nominations and campaigns, noting special thanks to Jordy Schell "for his leadership and contributions during his tenure as our G7 rep for the 2019-20 school year."

Student leadership itself has been a particular focus in recent years at HHSS, said Waito.

"Next year will mark the third year of our interdisciplinary studies student leadership course, to which Paul Longo lends his talent and vision as teacher and coordinator," he said. "G7 student reps are members of this course and collaborate with other Red Hawk student leaders to support G7 and HHSS initiatives. During the first two years this course has run, talented and dedicated student leaders have made great contributions to student life, bolstering school spirit and helping continue to make Hal High an inclusive and positive space for all students. We are eager to see the meaningful work and positive difference next year's groups will make at HHSS."

Olivia is eager to get started.

"I'm so excited to see some change and express everyone's opinions and voices and just be here for everyone, a kind friend in the hallway or a helping hand to everyone," she said. "I'm just excited to be there for everyone and make a change."

Graduation ceremonies postponed at TLDSB schools

Uncertainty about future physical distancing guidelines leads to decision

JENN WATT

Editor

All June graduations throughout the Trillium Lakelands District School Board will be postponed, the director of education announced in a letter to the community on May 1.

Without being able to easily predict what physical distancing protocols will be in place in the next two months, it was decided the ceremonies could not take place as usual.

"We have not taken this decision lightly as we know how important the opportunity to celebrate our graduates is for all of us," Larry Hope, director of education,



HHSS principal Chris Boulay speaks to the graduating class of 2019. The Athletic Centre was packed with well-wishers for the graduation ceremony last year. Trillium Lakelands District School Board will not be holding grad ceremonies in June due to precautions taken to limit the spread of the coronavirus. /JENN WATT Staff

wrote. "We have asked our schools to work with their stakeholders to develop

a plan to honour our students, and those plans will be developed over the coming

weeks." His letter said that TLDSB is also fielding questions about when schools will open again.

"We continue to follow the direction provided by the province, and clearly we are on the same page as we want to do everything as safely as possible. At this time we do not have a return date that is assured. As we learn more, we will certainly update our communities as quickly as possible," he said.

Hope's letter also outlined the results of a survey that garnered nearly 3,200 parent responses gauging satisfaction levels with the Learning@Home program.

It showed people are satisfied, for the most part.

On the question of online programs and tools, 68 per cent were satisfied, 11 per cent dissatisfied, and 20 per cent chose neither.

On the question of communication between home and school, 79 per cent were satisfied, seven per cent dissatisfied, and 13 per cent neither.

On the question of quantity of school work, 65 per cent were satisfied, 14 per cent dissatisfied, and 20 per cent neither.




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Here's How.
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Book highlights Rotary leaders and Haliburton history

JENN WATT

Editor

It took little convincing to get Len Pizzey to agree to write the second edition of the *Profiles of the Presidents* book for the Rotary Club of Haliburton. At the club's 75th anniversary gala in 2019, then-president Ted Brandon floated the idea past Pizzey, not sure whether he would be interested in getting back behind the keyboard again.

Pizzey, a retired journalist and former owner of the *Haliburton County Echo*, had authored the first *Profiles of the Presidents* book for the club's 50th anniversary in 1994.

"I said, would you be interested in coming out of retirement to do the [book about the] next 25 years? ... His face lit up. He seemed really excited at the prospect of doing it," Brandon said.

A year later, the book is out, available at Glecoff's Family Store, and includes photos and short biographies of each president.

Brandon said the project documents the accomplishments of Rotarians as well as those of the Haliburton Highlands.

"What's really cool about the book, it not only chronicles our presidents, but it chronicles the history of our club, which in truth mirrors the history of our community for the past 75 years," he said. "Rotary's been involved in so many things and also just the members and the past presidents in the book if they didn't do [a community project] under the Rotary banner, they did it as the chair of the school board or the chair of the chamber of commerce. They were all really, really heavily involved in the community, not just in Rotary but in so many other ways so that the book not only is a history of the Rotary club, but it's also a history of our community."

Pizzey said writing both books, the 50th and 75th anniversary volumes, reminded him of how deeply dedicated many are to Haliburton County and its well being.

"What I found interesting was that some people really have made a very large personal commitment, not only as president of the club, which of course takes time and commitment to show up and to run the board meetings and to come up with initiatives and help steer them to reality, but some people really buy into the Rotary ideals and they do things outside of the daily club activities. And I found that interesting," he said. "I didn't know some of those things [before writing the book] and I was very impressed with the extent to which Rotary became a focal point for other aspects of community service."

The first 50 presidents' biographies, originally published in the 1994 edition, are included in this new book, updated as needed.

"Some of the earliest people I wrote about in the profiles of the first time around were true community builders," he said. "They were people who laid the foundation for the community the way it is now and that's something worth knowing."

Although the process of writing the profiles wasn't technically difficult, Pizzey said he wanted to tease out aspects of each person's personality, which at times could be a challenge.

"Partly you're producing a history of the club's activities and its accomplishments, but I also wanted to probe a little deeper and if I didn't know people I wanted to find out about who they are, what they believe in, what



Clay Glecoff, left, and Ted Brandon hold copies of the Rotary Club of Haliburton's new book, *Profiles of the Presidents*, which is available for purchase from Glecoff's Family Store in Haliburton. The book is \$25 and includes profiles of all of the club's presidents from its 75-year history. Brandon, a Rotarian, organized the book, which was written by the *Echo*'s former owner Len Pizzey. / Photo by Amy Glecoff

their hobbies are, what their passions are, what motivated them to [join] Rotary, who they are as people. Those are easy questions to ask, but they're difficult questions sometimes to get a response," he said.

Surveys were sent out to the subjects, who answered as much – or as little – as they wanted. Over the winter, Pizzey worked on the profiles, much of the time while he was on a cross-country ski vacation in British Columbia.

"I put a lot of thought into it. I thought about the people I was going to write about and I would be thinking about it as I was skiing, or thinking about it as I was doing something else other than sitting in front of my computer," he said.

Along with the last 25 presidencies, another two important Rotarians were included in *Profiles of the Presidents*: Brian and Dorothy Menton.

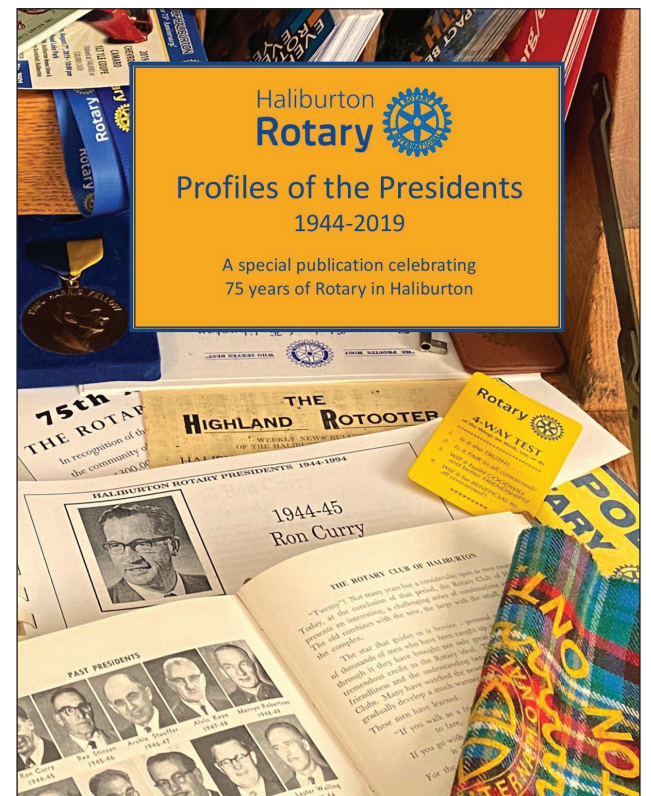
"Neither had been president of the club, but Brian and Dorothy were tremendous Rotarians and still are and Brian was district governor and got very involved with Rotary at the international level, at the regional level. He made a huge contribution to Rotary and certainly that was worthy of being mentioned," he said.

Pizzey said the project was satisfying – both back in 1994 and today – because of the opportunity to give some of the community's most active members their due.

"I think it's a nice way of honouring people and bringing together their commitment to Rotary along with their personal history and the history of the community. I guess in a small way it's a positive contribution to the community's story," he said.

"I said to Ted, I hope to be called upon to write the 100th anniversary profiles too," he laughed.

Profiles of the Presidents 1944-2019 is available at Glecoff's Family Store in Haliburton for \$25.



An image of the cover of *Profiles of the Presidents 1944-2019*, published by the Rotary Club of Haliburton. The book includes photos and biographies of the presidents over the last 75 years.



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Artist Rossana Dewey holds her self-portrait from day eight when she learned she was laid off from work. Dewey said she felt erased that day, as that feeling is depicted in her self-portrait. /DARREN LUM Staff

Daily account of the pandemic in self-portraits

DARREN LUM

Staff Reporter

Pulling out scraps of wood with her likeness from a tin container, painter Rossana Dewey's series of self-portraits made during the pandemic reveal the emotions she's gone through, one day at a time.

Several 2.5-by-two-inch squares lie on the table as she shows how she looked on day eight when she was told she was laid off from a part-time job in Toronto. It's a vague depiction of Dewey. Few details are discernible, except for the shape of the face and the length of her hair. "I felt erased," she said.

Losing her job was a hard blow for the West Guilford resident who has been exhibiting her artwork for the past seven years, including in Haliburton County art tours.

Initially, her intention was to complete the diary-like self-portraits for 14 days, coinciding with a two-week quarantine, but has since extended the project.

"Let's see how I depict myself over that time while I have to stay at home. It will be good for me to do and it'll keep me busy. I just kept going with it as the lockdown got extended," she said.

Dewey started the project on March 21 and calls it a "personal documentation."

As of April 30, she had completed a self-portrait for 35 days. It started with small oil paintings on scraps of wood from her husband's workshop while she looked into her mirror. Then she started to use a small book, painting self-portraits with similar dimensions. Then she moved to add paintings to a concertina book, using gouache paint – an opaque version of watercolour paint. Now she is using mixed media for her self-portraits in the concertina, which has pages that are folded like an accordion and can unfold in a long section.

Other than her outings for food at the grocery store in Eagle Lake, and her walks and runs, she hasn't left her house or her neighbourhood. She's losing track of time, unsure of the days of the week. The collection of her work will be a record of her time and has helped to give her something to focus on and helps her to get herself away from the news. Up until recently, her self-portraits did not include backgrounds, only showing the emotion on her face. She'll look to add backgrounds of the places where she completes her self-portraits, which have been anywhere in the house – representative of the world she and many are living in during the pandemic.

"We're all just roaming the house because that's our world right now," she said.

As of now there aren't any plans to exhibit her work.

However, she said she'll be contacting the Haliburton Highlands Museum, which has asked the public to contribute stories of their lives during the pandemic.

Part of her inspiration, she said, was the story of Anne Frank, who is known for documenting the two years she



Rossana Dewey is a West Guilford painter, who wanted to document her time during the coronavirus while under self-isolation. Her work, which has depicted her daily emotions, has spanned the past several weeks and will continue for the duration of the health crisis.

lived hidden from the Nazis, in a *Diary of a Young Girl*, before she was captured and taken to a concentration camp where she died during the Second World War. Her account was published after the war.

"I'm in a different lockdown, but we're all being asked to stay at home. We're being asked to be indoors, to stay away from others ... our fear is a different fear. It's a virus. But that's how I decided. It just evolved into me thinking, 'Yeah, I need to document what is happening to me now.' Not that I had any other intent. I thought it was only going to be 14 days, but the 14 days of isolation turned into stay at home, which it still feels like ... you're self-isolating yourself from the world, your life. It is what is happening. ... everything seems to be a shadow of what we had before," she said.

Her true feelings came out in her work, as she documented what she saw each day in the mirror.

"I wasn't trying to be realistic. I really wanted to capture how I was feeling and I'm really seeing that. Some of the images I see how they're not exuberant and filled with life. They do feel kind of alone. ... Even if I try to make myself look a little bit happier, it doesn't seem to work. It's funny how that's kind of happened. It is what's going on."



Painter Rossana Dewey looks in the mirror to paint a self-portrait, as part of her project to document herself during self-isolation. Dewey initially wanted to complete a self-portrait each day over 14 days, but that has grown into more than 35 and will continue until closures are lifted and movement is allowed.

Bike donations and repairs cranked out for community

DARREN LUM
Staff Reporter

Surrounded by nearly 50 donated bikes of various sizes and styles – some with tassels, some with baskets – in his front yard, Blake Paton says he’s happy with

Crossword brought to you by

Ken Barry
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"Out Standing In My Field"

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- CLUES ACROSS**

 - 1. Swiss shoe company
 - 5. ___ Caesar, comedian
 - 8. ___ and flow
 - 11. Horsefly
 - 13. Egyptian pharaoh
 - 14. African nation
 - 15. Tony-winning actress

Daisy

 - 16. Initial public offering
 - 17. Long-winding ridge
 - 18. Guinea peoples
 - 20. Fellow
 - 21. About aviation
 - 22. Able to make amends
 - 25. Easy to perceive
 - 30. Cut off
 - 31. Northeast Thai language
 - 32. Earthy pigment
 - 33. Water nymphs
 - 38. Returned material authorization (abbr.)
 - 41. Those who deal
 - 43. Apply a new fabric
 - 45. Confusions
 - 48. "To ___ his own"
 - 49. Lowest point of a ridge between two peaks
 - 50. Heavy cavalry sword
 - 55. Partner to pain
 - 56. A type of savings account
 - 57. In a way, felt pain
 - 59. Wide-beamed sailing dinghy
- CLUES DOWN**

 - 1. Indicates a certain time (abbr.)
 - 2. Expression of sorrow or pity
 - 3. Central American lizard
 - 4. Muslim military commanders
 - 5. One who takes to the seas
 - 6. Select jury
 - 7. Parts of the small intestine
 - 8. Painter's accessory
 - 9. Honk
 - 10. Ballpoint pen
 - 12. Large, dark antelope
 - 14. Ancient kingdom near Dead Sea
 - 19. Exhausts
 - 23. ___-bo: exercise system
 - 24. Not written in any key or mode
 - 25. Chinese principle underlying the universe
 - 26. Corpuscule count (abbr.)
 - 27. Powdery, post-burn-ing residue
 - 28. Company that rings receipts
 - 29. Rugged mountain range
 - 34. Commercials
 - 35. NY football player
 - 36. A form of be
 - 37. Soviet Socialist Republic
 - 39. Kindnesses
 - 40. Natural electrical phenomena
 - 41. Your
 - 42. Diana __, singer
 - 44. Upper surface of the mouth
 - 45. National capital
 - 46. Fluid in Greek mythology
 - 47. Renowned jazz trumpeter
 - 48. Freedom from difficulty
 - 51. Swiss river
 - 52. Prejudice
 - 53. Actor Idris
 - 54. Revolutionaries
 - 58. Criticize
- Answers on page 17

the response from the community to his initiative to get people riding.

It was only just over two weeks ago that he asked for donations of bicycles and offered repairs in exchange for donations to the food bank, and he thanks the community for their help.

"None of this would have been possible had people not been generous with their donations that they found. So, they were responsive to that. I've got lots of donated bikes," he said.

Some bikes came from Lindsay and he was going to go and get bikes from Bobcaygeon later in the afternoon, following the interview on Wednesday last week.

"Lots of people have brought them by and so in the end there are lots of parents who are able to ride with their kids, which is (once the bugs come out) about the only good form of exercise there is ... that's possible anymore. I know there are lots of parents who can ride with their kids now because either I've repaired their bikes, or I've given them a bike that was donated and then they made a donation to the food bank in return, or they've just gotten to bike with their kids. That's really the goal of the program so I'm happy with what we've done so far. It looks like we're nowhere near done so we continue," he said.

The middle school teacher estimates there has been close to \$2,000 donated

to the food banks, which was accepted in return for completed bike repairs for those able to pay.

"It's really not my business whether they donate or not. If somebody intends to donate and they find that they can't, well, at least the person is back on their bicycle and that's the main goal," he said.

His message to the public is to contact him if they're interested in getting a bike that might have been out of financial reach before.

"If the public needs a bike then don't be shy. I'll find a solution," he said.

Lots of bikes for children are still available. Paton said he's been supplying any needed parts from his shop. Although he appreciates donated parts, he isn't asking for any since he's happy to contribute his labour, skill and parts.

When will the initiative end?

"Well, as soon as things are back to more or less normal. Any bikes that I've got that are surplus I can give them away at schools," he said.

There will be a use or place he will find for all of the bikes that have been donated.

"We're not going to have, you know, 50 bikes in my lawn forever," he said.

For more information contact Paton through Twitter at @monsieurpaton, email at Blake.Paton@tldsb.on.ca or on Facebook.



Watch for turtles

Warm conditions are here, which in the Haliburton Highlands means the turtles are on the move. Be especially careful when driving to keep an eye out for the resident reptiles, like this snapping turtle seen on County Road 21 by Pinestone Resort. Daniel Manley said when he noticed the turtle making its way onto the road he pulled over and using a shovel moved it to the other side and then made sure it continued down the embankment to safety. /Photo courtesy of Daniel Manley

Social distancing will be good for my garden: celebrating sumac

Part seven in a series of garden tasks we can complete while practicing social distancing

SPRING, for gardeners, is both joyous and frenetic. The first signs of new growth and the blooming of early ephemeral flowers and bulbs are moments of renewal. However, they also signal the busiest of seasons. The list of chores grows exponentially as the daylight lengthens – start tomatoes, prune the apples, clean the gardens, rototill the veggie area, plant the peas, pick the rhubarb, and on and on.

In between sharpening tools and raking the lawn, I took a few minutes to weed the rockery. Stepping back, I tripped over a two-foot tall, firmly rooted stick. Yikes, the nearby stag horn sumac was “running” by underground rhizome into the rock garden. As I readied myself for serious warfare, a beautiful common flicker landed on the mother bush and snacked on a few of the remaining seeds. Normally an insect eater, the flicker displayed its long tongue in a “na-na-na-naa-na” action.

In a normal year, I would put my head down and finish the task at hand, but in this COVID-time of social distancing, I am communicating more with nature. So I watched the flicker. His actions reminded me that this sumac was a bush worth celebrating.

In August, the exotic-looking fans of foliage shade the deck with a palm-like texture and the rust-red, hairy stems

form architectural shapes – all the rage in garden design circles. The fall colour is spectacular, a blazing combination of reds, and oranges with a hint of maroon. Used for erosion control, the sumac is remarkably drought tolerant and few pests bother the plant.

Most importantly, it attracts fauna.

All sorts of pollinators come for the nectar in the tiny, greenish-white flowers of early summer. Bees, butterflies and other insects land on the upright spikes that will develop into cone-shaped “bobs” of drupes. (A drupe is a fleshy fruit containing a pit with usually a single developed seed inside.)

It is these drupes that provide food from autumn until the following spring for a host of birds. Woodpeckers, finches, grosbeaks, robins and others feed on the bush and dozens of other species use the shrub as a place to stop, rest, preen and survey the garden.

There are human culinary reasons to enjoy sumac, too. The citrus flavoured drupes can be used for a summer lemonade-like drink, the homemade sumac jelly reminds me of orange marmalade and the dried drupes can be ground into a spice similar to that used in Mediterranean za’atar.

Despite spreading into the rock garden, today I celebrate this native plant. I will dig out the runner tomorrow.

Garden



Belinda Gallagher

Musings



A flicker sits on a sumac branch. The drought-tolerant sumac is worth celebrating for its beauty, its citrus-flavoured drupes and the birds it attracts. /Photos by Belinda Gallagher



Above, eastern phoebe



Rose-breasted grosbeak



Pine grosbeak



Right, Robin



Great crested flycatcher



J. Douglas Hodgson Elementary School Learn@Home program

Grade 6/7F procedural writing

How to draw a girl (cause that's all I can draw)

By Clementine Bainbridge

Things you will need: A pencil, an eraser and a piece of paper or a sketch-book.

Step 1. head: Draw a circle at the top of the page

Step 2. Draw a line down the middle from the top of the circle to the bottom of the page for symmetry.

Step 3. Draw two lines at the sides of the circle, then, draw two other diagonal lines, stop at the symmetry line

Step 4. Smooth the chin.

Step 5. Body: Draw two curved lines at the bottom of the head for the neck.

Step 6. Draw two lines that bend down at the end.

Step 7. Continue down until about half the page.

Step 8. Curve the lines in a bit then do it again.

Step 9. Draw two small lines where the armpits would be.

Step 10. Draw two squiggly lines for the waist.

Step 11. Draw two curved lines for the hands.

Step 12. Hair: draw a curved line on the head then draw another line and connect them. Do the same for the other side but a bit smaller then draw two bumps at the

top and curve them down until they connect with the rest of the hair.

Step 16. Eyes (if you want to draw them cause I didn't): draw a line curving down.

Step 17. Draw two slightly curved lines under it.

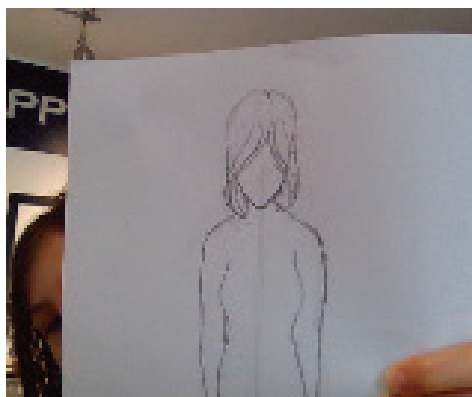
Step 18. Draw a small dot for the pupil and make the lid thicker at the side for lashes.

Step 19. Nose and Mouth: Draw a small curved line for the nose and do the same for the mouth but upside down and bigger.

Step 20. Clothes. Do whatever you want for clothes.

Step 21. Erase the guidelines

Now you can draw a person!



How To Make a White Boule of Bread

By Olivia Gruppe

Ingredients

-6 1/2 cups of unbleached all purpose flour

-1 1/2 tbsp yeast

-1 1/2 tbsp kosher salt

-3 cups of lukewarm water

-Cornmeal to cover baking sheet

Step 1. In a large bowl mix dry ingredients thoroughly (all dry except cornmeal), then add lukewarm water and stir 40 times.

Step 2. Let it rise for 2 hours and cover with saran wrap, you can just leave it on the counter.

Step 3. Take 1/2 of the dough and form a boule, put flour on the boule you're forming so it doesn't get too sticky, then do the same with the other half of dough.

Step 4. Put a thin layer of cornmeal on baking sheets, place a boule on each baking sheet, cover with saran wrap, let it sit for 40 minutes and preheat the oven to 450 degrees.

Step 5. Just before baking slash each boule 3 times (1/4 of an inch deep) and sprinkle with water. Place in the oven on the middle rack.

Step 6. Add 500ml of water to a broil pan and place the pan on the bottom shelf of the oven. Bake the boules for 27-30

minutes, until the thermometer in bread reads 190 degrees. Cool bread on a wire rack.

Step 7. Eat and enjoy!

Tips and Warnings

-You may need to use more flour if the dough is too sticky.

-Oven temperatures vary, so check the bread often near the end of the baking time to ensure the boules don't overcook.

-To prevent getting burnt by the extremely hot oven, wear oven mitts.

-Instead of using a large bowl, you can use a clean bucket.



Ms. Gordon – Grade 5/6 French immersion class



Identification/Apparence

Les feuilles sont vert et il y a en forme de une coeur avec les bords
Comme les dents et avec une odeur qui sent comme une ail quand c'est écrasé. Il a des fleurs qui sont blanc.

Originaire d'où?

Amérique du Nord

Se trouve où maintenant?

Le sud et l'est de l'Ontario jusqu'au nord jusqu'à Sault Ste. Marie, dans certaines régions du Québec, et au sud de la Caroline du Nord et du Kentucky aux États-Unis.

Situation/Croissance

La situation est que le Alliaire officinale se propage rapidement

Pourquoi c'est une menace Pourquoi c'est envahissante?

Le Alliaire officinale tue les papillon blanc parce que le Alliaire officinale regardez comme le plante que les papillons mettre leurs oeufs et le toxique puer de ail tue leurs oeufs.

Que pouvez-vous faire?

Mettre le tiens déchets dans les areas naturels et nettoyer ton soulier et ton vélo

Bibliographie

<http://www.natureconservancy.ca/fr/nos-actions/ressources/les-espèces-envahissantes?referent=fr>
<https://www.google.ca/>

What makes me happiest in Spring?

April 21 2020

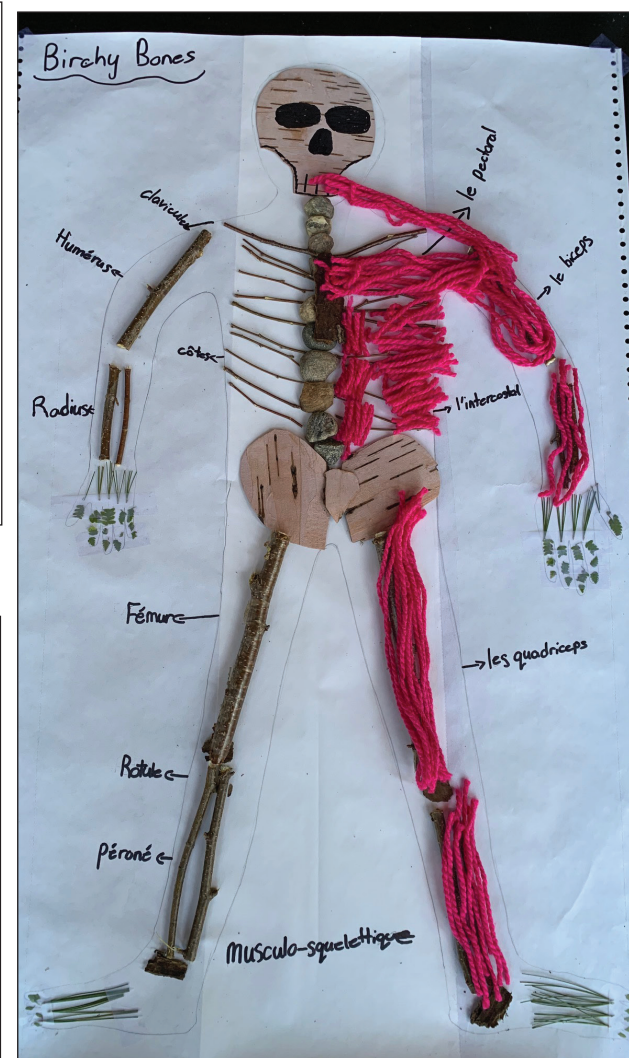
What makes me happiest in the spring is that there is barely any snow and that the sun shines bright. There is still a little bit of a breeze so that you don't get too hot. You can play on the swing set and not have to worry about snow in your way and the sun being too bright.

Who in your life is a Superhero to you? What makes them a Superhero?

April 23 2020

The person in my life that is my superhero is my mom she will always love me no matter what Even if I broke something very valuable in the house she will love me no matter what if I fell and cut my knee she will help me up and make me feel better she will always be there for me I love you Mom.

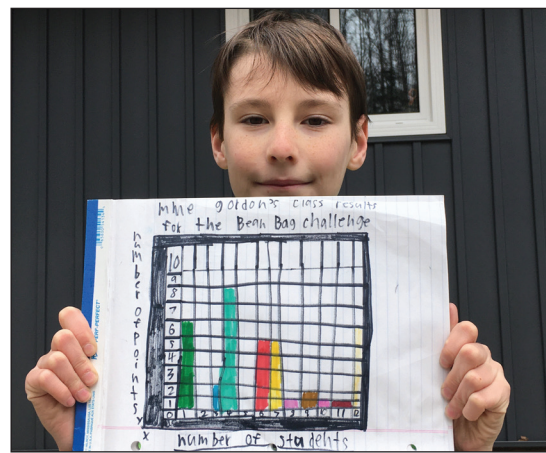
Journal entries as part of a "quick write" activity written by Dineke Verstege, Grade 5.



"Birchy Bones" 3D model of the musculoskeletal system by Chloe Morissette, Grade 5.



3D ecosystem diorama created by Jacob Lloyd, Grade 6.



Bar graph assignment using the class's phys-ed data from prior to March Break completed by Maxime Little, Grade 5.

Home builders help

Haliburton County Home Builders' Association president Keith Thomas, right, presents a cheque to David Ogilvie, chair of the 4Cs, on May 2 outside the food bank location. The association is donating \$5,600 to the 4Cs, Central Food Network and the Minden Food Bank. "Haliburton County Home Builders Association is very happy to be able to assist the food banks in Haliburton County," a press release says. / Photo submitted



Proud of community's response to health crisis

community news

west guilford

Eleanor Cooper
754-2278

Since restrictions developed to prevent the spread of the COVID-19 virus, people are getting used to visits from deck to across the lawn. I'm proud of Haliburton's compliance with regulations, appreciating how much we count on chatting close by and wanting so much to give hugs to the special people we see. However, there are compensations. You hear from those by phone who usually come in, or who correspond so faithfully.

From 100.9 Canoe FM, I am reminded of the work provided by an Irish Line neighbour, Aaron Walker. His Food For Kids now reaches them via various food banks or families. Well done!

Perry and Kay Morrison's son, Gerald, began his appointment early in the year as CFO for Haliburton Forest and Wildlife, and his wife Barbara, having left her ministry as pastor of Bloomingdale Mennonite community, now is employed by SIRCH. They now reside in their house on 25th Line. Their daughter Daniko, working on her degree on Global Development at Western University, was able to include a few weeks term in New Zealand at Victoria University in Wellington earlier this year.

As you may have gathered over the course of my columns, music and theatre are main interests, but I do notice what young athletes also accomplish. It's great that Alex Little is advancing his hockey career after being drafted by OHL's North Bay Battalion as the *Echo* reports. I love to see people pursuing their dreams. Kate Campbell comes to mind as well.

Congratulations to Wayne and Barb Fawcett on becoming grandparents to Annabelle, daughter of Nicolas and Julie Fawcett on April 18, 2020 in London, Ont.

CROSSWORD ANSWERS

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www.pointintime.ca



ywcapeterborough.org



www.sirch.on.ca

Seniors programs get emergency funding

Haliburton County organizations are getting an injection of \$20,000 thanks to a federal grant distributed through the United Way for the City of Kawartha Lakes.

Worth \$49,278, the federal government's New Horizons for Seniors Program will provide emergency funding to the area's food banks, the Rotary Club of Haliburton's Good Food Box and SIRCH Community Services, which provide essential food services to seniors who are self-isolating, as well as individuals and families experiencing economic insecurity.

"Our hope is that this grant will enhance and support established programs. We are concerned that we have many seniors in rural areas who might become easily isolated," said Penny Barton Dyke, executive director of United Way for the City of Kawartha Lakes. "Together, we can ensure they receive

food, supports and wellness checks with this funding. Seniors need to know that we are here for them and this is an unprecedented time, and so we all need to check in with others and ask for help or a friendly phone call."

The United Way for CKL appreciated the government's support and for increasing supports for individuals 55 and older.

The funding breakdown includes \$5,000 for emergency food assistance organized by the Central Food Network, \$4,500 to SIRCH Community Services, \$4,000 for the Good Food Box (expansion, subsidies, help with deliveries) organized by the Rotary Club of Haliburton, \$3,250 for the Minden Food Bank (medical offices have frozen meals and assist with purchasing food), and \$3,250 for the Lily Ann Thrift Store and Haliburton food bank (expansion of food access and deliveries).

In a prepared statement, the Central

Food Network's secretary David O'Brien said, "We know that our local seniors were struggling with isolation and food security even before implications of COVID-19 hit home. Now, more than ever, we need to be reaching out to those who are most vulnerable to offer a helping hand. This funding will support several of our programs that aim to help seniors stay insulated, not isolated."

Tina Jackson, CFN operational and administrative director, said the money supports services such as free delivery of groceries and emergency food, including prepared meals, through food banks in Wilberforce and Cardiff. It will also offer access to tax preparation services, allowing lower income seniors to continue to receive tax-related financial benefits, which helps to cover monthly expenses such as food and access to medication.

Gena Robertson, SIRCH Community Services executive director, said the dona-

“

We are concerned that we have many seniors in rural areas who might become easily isolated.

— Penny Barton Dyke
United Way

tion covered the cost of food for the past two weeks. Since March 30, SIRCH has given out 2,575 meals and 530 soups, totalling 3,105.

Recipients of the prepared meals are those with disabilities, anxiety, those who lack cooking skills or resources, and those who are ill, homeless and elderly. Meals have been delivered to sites in all four of the county's municipalities. During weekends, take-out meals are available and more than 700 meals and soups have been given during the past four Meals on Wheels deliveries.

Of the total federal grant, \$20,000 was provided to the Community Care City of Kawartha Lakes.

The United Way is temporarily withholding the balance of \$9,278, which will be applied to identified emergency needs for more vulnerable seniors or gaps identified by community leaders. This could include sudden increases in demand, or emergency equipment repairs, for example. The funds could also go to current recipients if there are no emergency requests. As part of the responsibilities and conditions of the funding, a small portion is used to provide a report back on outcomes of the services receiving funds.

Organizations were selected based on their current capacity to serve the immediate needs of seniors, their geographic area and the needs that they identified to United Way for the CKL.

New Horizons for Seniors Program provides grants for projects that improve the well-being of seniors and foster social inclusion. To provide more support for seniors during the COVID-19 pandemic, the federal government announced flexibility for organizations to use funding received through the program's community-based stream to provide immediate and essential services to seniors impacted by COVID-19.

For more information about local funding or to donate to United Way for the City of Kawartha Lakes visit ckl-United-Way.ca.

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North Hastings Non Profit Housing Corp is looking for a Maintenance Person. Permanent/ Full time. Must have clean CPIC. 3 years maintenance and repairs experience in electrical, plumbing and carpentry. Sound knowledge of cleaning methods, maintain safety systems, excellent public relations skills and WHMIS record keeping. Apply: nhnphc.hiringcommittee@gmail.com

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560 ANNOUNCEMENTS



We would like to offer our appreciation and thanks to all those vendors, musicians, sponsors, and supporters of the Haliburton Highlands Food and Beverage Showcase in the past 6 years.

We won't be carrying on as a food festival at Wintergreen Maple, but we will continue to fund-raise for H.A.V.E. in different formats.

If you would still like to contribute to H.A.V.E.
(donations can be made online or sent to Diane Dawson and she will pass them on), that would be appreciated.

Look for more fundraising events in the future.
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PEACOCK, Caroline Ann

It's with heavy hearts we say goodbye to our beloved Caroline Ann Peacock McDonald on April 16th, 2020, in her 66th year.

Preceded by her late husband Robert Daniel McDonald. Remembered by her daughter Theresa, son-in-law Brian, granddaughter Kassidy, son Dean, daughter-in-law Carolyn, and by good friends. A private burial will be held at Gelert Cemetery.

Be kind to one another, tender hearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you. Ephesians 4:32. Forever in our hearts, with Love.

Online condolences may be left at
AshburnhamFuneral.ca



In Loving Memory of

Doris Mae Moore (nee Hobden)

Passed away peacefully at Hyland Crest Senior Citizens Home, Minden on Saturday, May 2, 2020, at the age of 92.

Beloved wife of the late Robert John Moore, Dear mother of Sheila (Keith) Cowen, Scott (Donna), Delaine (Blake) Sisson. Loving grandma of Judy (Michael), Colin, Lisa (Steve), Kim (Geoff), Christina, Autumn (Austin), Regan (Ashley), Caley (Craig), and great grandma of Marissa, Kaylan, Kate, Ava, Rileigh, D'arcy, Amy, Max, Calen and predeceased by Cayden. Dear sister of Walter and sister-in-law of Liz, Betty (Mitt) and predeceased by Olive, Blanche (Jack), Alice (Vince), Rene (Lew), Harry (Neva), Lloyd (Ada), Bernie and Iva. Daughter of the late Elfreda and Walter Hobden. Loved by many nieces and nephews.

A Private Family Graveside Service will be held at Zion United Church Cemetery on Wednesday, May 6, 2020.

Memorial Donations to the Charity of your choice would be appreciated by the family and can be arranged through the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd., P.O. Box 427, Minden, Ontario K0M 2K0.



www.gordonmonkfuneralhome.com



In Loving Memory of

Mae Cooper (nee Lewis)

August 31, 1929 – May 1, 2020

In the still of the night amid this pandemic the Lord received another angel.

Daughter of the late Gordon and Ruby Lewis. Wife of the late Ray Cooper. Mom to Murray (Zelda), Carolyn (Claude), Darlene (David) and Pamela (Steve). Gramma to 11, Great Gramma to 19 with 1 deceased, Great Great Gramma to 4. Sister to Doris and Millie (deceased). Mae will be sadly missed by extended family, friends and her church family.

A Private Family Graveside Service will be held at St. Peter's Anglican Church Cemetery on Thursday, May 7, 2020. A Celebration of Mae's Life will be held at a later date.

Memorial Donations to the West Guilford Baptist Church or to the Extendicare Proud Pioneers would be appreciated by the family and can be arranged through the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd., P.O. Box 427, Minden, Ontario K0M 2K0.



www.gordonmonkfuneralhome.com



Lee Gauthier

Lee Gauthier of Haliburton, Ontario passed away peacefully on April 30, 2020 in her 79th year.

Loving daughter of the late Leonie and Joachim Gauthier. Predeceased by her sisters Estelle Murphy and Clare Needham and brother Eddie Gauthier. Lovingly remembered by her brother Paul Gauthier. Cherished Auntie OZ to Nephews; Mark, Greg, Jean-Paul and Christopher Gauthier, and Paul Joseph & Peter Murphy. Nieces; Patricia Lynch (Tom), Michelle Mesheau (Carl), Marcia Jukes (Paul), Leslie Needham, Paula Needham (Phil), Kelly Hill (Andrew), Stephanie Needham, Kelly Gauthier and Lisa Finch (Chris). Great nieces and nephews and Great-great nieces and nephews.

Lee's life was the epitome of a life well lived. She was a strong proponent of equality issues and worked hard to support and uplift people in her life. From Lee's perspective, this fundamentally meant that we have a duty to be decent, respectful and kind to one another. She was passionate about her community. Lee had an exceptional career in real estate and will be deeply missed by her Century 21 family. She was also extremely gifted in many artistic areas. Lee's artwork evolved from graphite works to 12x12 acrylic canvases inspired by nature, a book she read, a place she has been, a favourite view or a spiritual rendering of a concept. Lee also created beautiful landscapes. She was a skilled writer and loved participating in OutLoud Womyn's Voices. Lee loved nature and animals, whether it was caring for her cats or her deer family. Lee loved to travel and experience different places in the world and this gave her an appreciation and respect for all people and cultures. She will be fondly remembered and greatly missed by all her family and friends.

A celebration of life will be scheduled after COVID-19 restrictions are lifted. As an expression of remembrance, donations to Minden Cat Angels or the HHHS Palliative Care Unit would be appreciated by the family.



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INSIDE
THIS WEEK:

NO ROCK THE WAKE
Popular wakeboard event is cancelled for 2008 but it may return in the future

REPORT ON THE TSW
Reaction to panel's recommendation to change system's governance well received

A GALA NIGHT FOR ARTISTS
There were 14 pages of nominations for 2008 arts awards; recipients announced

THE
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HALIBURTON COUNTY
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TUESDAY, MAY 6, 2008

Vol. 125 No. 19 \$1.25 INCL. GST

Potential lockout at county after talks stall

JENN WATT

Staff Reporter

Labour relations are tense between Haliburton County's staff and management after contract

negotiations stalled late last week.

The county officially gave up on bargaining with one of its unions Friday, filing for a "no-board report," which could put them in a position for a lockout

or strike in the coming month.

"If the no-board is issued [May 6], the union would be in a strike position May 23. It is 17 days after the no-board is actually issued," said Alison Davidson, the

national representative for the Canadian Union of Public Employees in an interview Monday.

A strike by local 1960's 33 members or a lockout by management would affect road paving and re-

surfacing, equipment operations, the tourism department, administrative, engineering, planning and accounting services among others.

See **County** page 8

Declining enrolment will be felt at Hal High

MARTHA PERKINS

Editor

Every teacher at Haliburton Highlands Secondary School will have a job this September – it just won't necessarily be at Hal High, says a superintendent of the Trillium Lakelands District School Board.

Paul Doiron says that seven years of enrollment decline at the elementary level are about to be felt at the high school level.

"The Grade 8 classes are larger than the Grade 7 classes, which are larger than the Grade 6 classes," he told the *Echo*. "We've been registering smaller classes every year for seven years. Now it will have an impact on the high school level for the next seven years at least, unless we get a large growth of families moving into the area."

He estimates that 50 fewer students will be sitting in HHSS classrooms in the fall. Total enrollment will be 650 students, down from 700 this semester.

Fewer students means fewer teachers are needed to teach them.

Even though this trend is being felt throughout the district – indeed, throughout the province – Doiron says that Trillium Lakelands will not be laying off any

See **Teachers** page 8



GREG HOEKSTRA/Echo

Groovin'

The Tri-Vocals – Elly Malcomson, Chris Archer and Jessie Pflug – do their best to attract the interest of Ken Loney as they sing "Hey, Big Spender" at Sunday's Highlands Festival Singers concert at the Northern Lights Pavilion. More photos page 29.

Income statistics paint intriguing picture of county

MARTHA PERKINS

Editor

Are the people of Haliburton County the lowest paid in the province or are they comfort-

ably middle-class? It depends on which side of the retirement divide you're standing.

Statistics Canada unveiled a fascinating portrait of the Highlands last week, using information from Census studies as well

as other economic indicators.

On one hand, full-time workers in Haliburton County earn the least amount of anyone else in Ontario. They used to be second last, but Manitoulin recently inched past them. The 2005 me-

dian income for full-time, year-round employees as \$32,79, compared to \$33,995 in Manitoulin. The provincial median is \$44,748. (With medians, half the population is above the figure, half is



See **High percentage** page 10

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Kennisis Lake

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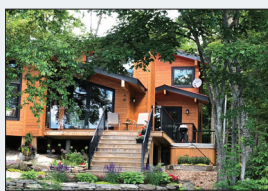
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Spruce Lake

Custom built 3BR, 3 bath, waterfront home/cottage. With 25 acres, 225 ft of frtg and Southern exposure. This private and peaceful property. open concept living with beautiful maple cabinetry. Cozy sunroom, gorgeous gazebo or stone patio with firepit. 2 BR guest cottage. Wheelchair accessible.

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Kennisis Lake

Looking for a yr-rnd home or a 4-season cottage? Breathtaking 3-bdrm, 2 bath home. Custom built kitchen w/ granite countertops, built-in appliances, lrg island & much more. Low maintenance property is very energy efficient. 4 season sunroom. Ramps, paths & staircases suitable for all ages. 4 season bunkie & double car garage.

\$1,150,000



Grass Lake

Stunning 4 BR, 4 bath turn key home/cottage. Large sunny level lot. 100+ ft of private frtg and personal boat launch. Panoramic lake view. 80ft deck. High quality finishing's. Many upgrades in fall of 2018. Double attached garage and detached single garage with carport. Shows pride of ownership.

\$1,050,000



Colbourne Lake

Enjoy being close to nature in a quiet, private and peaceful setting. 4 BR, 2 bath log home/cottage. 25 acres of mature trees. Stunning open concept living. Engineered hardwood flooring, granite countertops and walk-out to covered wraparound deck. Heated workshop with loft.

\$999,000



Kennisis Lake

Low maintenance 4 season cottage. 4 bdrm, 1 Bath. Open concept. Oversized dining area perfect for hosting. Large deck with glass railing. Lots of space for the whole family to stay. Additional living space in bunkie. Beautifully landscaped maintenance free property. Granite flower beds and stairway to water. Ample privacy and much more.

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WENONA LAKE \$662,000

Looking for a quiet, calm and peaceful four season cottage or waterfront home? Look no further. This 3 BR, 3 bath immaculate cottage sits on a private lot. Large open concept living, excellent for hosting family gatherings. 125ft of frtg with stunning western views.



HALIBURTON LAKE \$619,000

Meticulously cared for 3 BR, 2 bath year round home/cottage. Private lot perfect for children to play. 176 ft frtg. Beautiful sandy beach, dock and full sun. Bright open concept living. Fully finished lower level. Enjoy the stunning views of nature. Detached single garage.



KENNISIS LAKE \$569,000

It's all about the lot!! Enjoy the gorgeous sunsets from this west facing level lot. Amazing rock shoreline, deep water entry is great for the avid swimmers. 125 ft frontage and year round road. Looking for a fixer upper this one is for you! 3 bdrms 2 with balconies.



CARROLL ROAD \$559,500

Every nature lovers dream! 3 bdrm, 2 bath rustic log home perfectly situated on 92ac. Deck around the front & side to enjoy your lovely yard, gardens & forest. Complete and utter privacy! Open concept kitchen-dining finished with wood cabinetry and grand wood cookstove. Large 3 bay garage.



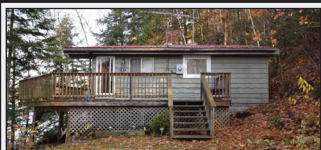
TWELVE MILE LAKE \$558,000

Offering a million-dollar view and spectacular sunsets! Bright open concept custom built 3 BR, 3 bath home. Floor to ceiling windows providing stunning lake views. Finished lower level. Cozy 3 season cedar screened in porch.



LONG LAKE \$499,900

Choose to build your dream cottage on this stunning property overlooking Long Lake or renovate the existing building which includes 2 BR and 1 full bath. Extensive 650' of water frontage. Private seasonal access and beautifully wooded 54+/- acres provides ample privacy.



MISKWABI LAKE \$486,900

Turnkey 3 bdrm, 4 season cottage. Open concept living space. Finished with pine walls and ceilings, gives the true cottage feel. Recently installed laminate flooring throughout, indoor sauna. This property has it all! Walk-out to wrap around deck. Bunkie for additional living space.



LITTLE GLAMOR LK \$439,000

4 season 3 bdrm, 1 bath. Open concept living provides ample space for the whole family. 3-season sun porch. Walk out to the lake front deck. Sloping to level lot. Hard sand bottom shoreline. Firepit at the water's edge. Start enjoying your family's vacation with this turnkey package!



NESBITT ROAD \$399,999

Recently renovated 4 bdrm, 2 bath home. Beautifully treed level lot. Many recent upgrades include new roof, fully renovated bathrooms, luxury vinyl flooring throughout, blown-in insulation and much more. Finished lower level, large deck and heated attached double car garage.



PERCY LAKE \$379,000

Great traditional family cottage! 4 Bdrm, 1 bath cottage has open concept living space finished w/ laminate flooring and wood interior boasts cottage charm. Large lakefront deck. Southern exposure. The list doesn't stop there, sauna building at waters edge, large sitting deck and dock.



AIRPORT ROAD \$259,000

We found the perfect starter or retirement home for you! 1.10-ac level lot surrounded by mature trees. Cozy 2-bdrm, 1 bath home with open concept kitchen and living space. In-floor radiant heat and recently installed vinyl flooring throughout. Attached oversized single insulated garage.

VACANT LOTS

Drag Lake \$499,000 7.24AC
SOLD West Lake \$319,000 0.81AC
SOLD Otter Lake \$289,000 67.9AC
Colborne Lake \$289,000 4.83AC
NEW LISTING Paddys Bay \$259,000 45.72AC
Contau Lake \$165,000 1.33AC
Harburn Road \$99,000 44+AC
Irondale River \$79,900 3.22AC
Trappers Trail \$49,900 0.93AC
Deep Bay Rd \$49,000 3.05 AC
Tattersal Road \$37,000 1.03AC
Fred Jones Road \$34,500 6.59AC
Twist Lane \$27,900 0.43 AC
Fred Jones Road \$25,000 0.38AC